

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-10, 12, 14-17, and 19-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 11, 13, and 18 are canceled by the present response without prejudice and claims 19-22 are added by the present response.

Claims 1-7 and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. patent application publication 2002/0060516 to Kawate et al. (herein “Kawate”). Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kawate as applied to claim 1. Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kawate as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. patent 6,787,122 to Zhou. Claims 9-11 and 18 were objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims.

Initially, applicants gratefully acknowledge the early indication of the allowable subject matter in claims 9-11 and 18.

Addressing now the above-noted rejections, those rejections are traversed by the present response.

The present response sets forth new independent claims 19 and 20 for examination. All the current claims now depend from one of new independent claims 19 and 20. Further, new claims 19 and 20 have been written to set forth subject matter believed to be allowable based on the indication of allowable subject matter in the outstanding Office Action.

More particularly, new independent claim 19 corresponds to original claim 11 rewritten in independent form except that new independent claim 19 additionally recites “arrays of cathode electrodes and arrays of gate electrodes alternately disposed on the support substrate to define a plurality of pairs of a cathode electrode and a gate electrode in a matrix

format". That new claim feature is believed to be fully supported for example in Figure 2 in the present specification.

New independent claim 19 also, however, deletes a limitation from original claims 1 and 11 in that new independent claim 19 does not recite a "metal plating layer", but instead recites a "metal layer". However, applicants do not believe the specific limitation of the "metal plating layer" was the basis for patentability of original claim 11, and thus the noted change in new claim 19 is not believed to raise into question the allowability of new claim 19.

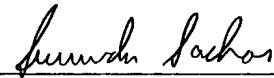
Similarly, new independent claim 20 corresponds to previously pending dependent claim 18 rewritten in independent form with the additional limitation noted above of reciting "arrays of cathode electrodes and arrays of gate electrodes alternately disposed on the support substrate to define a plurality of pairs of a cathode electrode and a gate electrode in a matrix format", and new independent claim 20 also not reciting a "metal plating layer" but instead reciting a "metal layer".

Applicants respectfully believe new independent claims 19 and 20, and the claims dependent therefrom, are allowable based on the previous indications of allowable subject matter.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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